

GAO

Fact Sheet for the Chairman,
Subcommittee on Environment, Energy,
and Natural Resources, Committee on
Government Operations, House of
Representatives

May 1993

INSPECTORS GENERAL

Appointments and Related Issues





United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

**Accounting and Financial
Management Division**

B-253424

May 28, 1993

The Honorable Mike Synar
Chairman, Environment, Energy, and
Natural Resources Subcommittee
Committee on Government Operations
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your October 1992 request, which was based on an October 5, 1992, Committee reprint (House Report 102-1014), and a subsequent discussion with your office, we are providing certain information regarding federal inspectors general (IGs). Specifically, we are providing information on (1) IG appointments and related issues, (2) Department of Energy IG resources devoted to the audit of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) activities, and (3) agency and IG resources and staff in the 34 entities with IGs appointed by the head of the agency.

IG APPOINTMENTS AND RELATED ISSUES

The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, created offices of inspector general in 25 entities. The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1990 established an IG at the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). These 26 IGs, which include IGs at cabinet-level agencies, are appointed by the President with Senate confirmation. The Inspector General at the Department of Energy is one of these presidentially appointed IGs.

In addition, the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988 established offices of inspector general in 33 designated federal entities which, unlike FERC, were not in departments with presidentially appointed IGs or were government corporations. The Government Printing Office Inspector General Act of 1988 established an IG in the Government Printing Office. These 34 IGs are appointed by entity heads. The powers and duties of IGs appointed by entity heads are essentially the same as those of presidentially appointed IGs.

Presidentially appointed IGs report to and are under the general supervision of the head of the agency, or to the extent such authority is delegated, the officer next in rank below the agency head.¹ These IGs are not to report to, or be subject to supervision by, any other officer. IGs appointed under the 1988 amendments report to and are under the general supervision of the head of the designated federal entity. They are not to report to, or be subject to supervision by, any other officer or employee of the entity.

A presidentially appointed IG may be removed from office by the President. The President is required by law to communicate the reasons for any such removal to both houses of Congress or, in the case of the CIA IG, to the Intelligence Committees. In designated federal entities, if an IG is removed from office or is transferred to another position or location within the entity, the head of the entity must communicate in writing the reasons for any such removal or transfer to both houses of the Congress.

ENERGY IG RESOURCES DEVOTED TO AUDITS OF FERC

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission had \$141 million of budget authority for fiscal year 1992 and staffing levels of 1,498 full-time equivalents (FTEs).² The Department of Energy IG has an office at FERC staffed with six auditors. The Audit Director is a merit pay system level 14 with a bachelor of science degree in accounting and 12 years of audit experience, including 11 years with the Army Audit Agency. The remaining five staff also have bachelor of science degrees in accounting and experience ranging from 22 years to newly hired.

RESOURCE COMPARISONS FOR IGS AT DESIGNATED FEDERAL ENTITIES

Appendix I provides unaudited information about the 33 designated federal entities and the Government Printing Office, and their respective IG offices. The information includes fiscal year 1992 budget authority and staffing levels based on FTEs. Actual budget authority and FTEs by entity were obtained from the fiscal year 1994 Budget of the United States Government. Information about IG budget authority and FTEs was obtained from the respective IG offices.

¹The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1990 requires the IG of the CIA to report to the Director and does not authorize the IG to report to the officer next in rank.

²One FTE is equal to 1 work year, or 2,080 hours.

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We are sending copies of this report to the Director, Office of Management and Budget; the Inspector General, Department of Energy; the Chair, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and other interested parties.

If you have any further questions, please call me at (202) 512-9489 or Margaret H. Harris at (202) 512-2967.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David L. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D" and a checkmark-like flourish at the end.

David L. Clark
Director, Legislative Reviews and
Audit Oversight

ENTITY AND IG FISCAL YEAR 1992
RESOURCES AT THIRTY-FOUR ENTITIES

(Dollars in thousands)

Entity	Budget authority ^a		Staff size ^b	
	Entity	IG office	Entity	IG office
ACTION	\$ 199,535	\$ 954	423	12
Amtrak	656,200	4,800	22,967	70
Appalachian Regional Commission	194,624	350	39	3
Board for International Broadcasting	201,891	321	19	2
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	47,319	320	592	4
Consumer Product Safety Commission	40,768	270	531	4
Corporation for Public Broadcasting	327,280	786	109	11
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	211,908	797	2,791	18
Farm Credit Administration	35,505	642	483	7
Federal Communications Commission	127,047	470	1,810	6
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ^b	17,433,883	19,899	11,799	143
Federal Election Commission	18,808	138	266	2
Federal Housing Finance Board ^b	13,378	349	116	4
Federal Labor Relations Authority	20,774	226	245	3

Entity	Budget authority ^a		Staff size ^d	
	Entity	IG office	Entity	IG office
Federal Maritime Commission	17,600	216	220	3
Federal Reserve System ^b	133,666	1,930	1,563	22
Federal Trade Commission	82,897	384	964	4
Government Printing Office	1,057,402	1,976	4,830	35
Interstate Commerce Commission	46,827	269	613	3
Legal Services Corporation	350,926	762	144	12
National Archives and Records Administration	205,797	511	2,636	9
National Credit Union Administration	860,623	441	1,000	5
National Endowment for the Arts	176,521	616	269	8
National Endowment for the Humanities	204,917	466	285	7
National Labor Relations Board	162,229	417	2,123	7
National Science Foundation	2,699,611	3,500	1,236	34
Panama Canal Commission	518,832	1,064	8,569	22
Peace Corps	203,971	1,418	1,182	19
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	1,491,326	1,839	570	8
Securities and Exchange Commission	269,059	775	2,492	8
Smithsonian Institution	389,960	1,219	5,288	24

Entity	Budget authority ^a		Staff size ^b	
	Entity	IG office	Entity	IG office
Tennessee Valley Authority	8,306,486	8,700	19,992	145
U.S. International Trade Commission	42,456	355	482	3
U.S. Postal Service	49,617,687	333,902	770,873	4,500

^aInformation on budget authority and staff size at the agency level was taken from the fiscal year 1994 Budget of the United States Government. Information on budget authority and staff size at IG offices was obtained from those offices. Staff size is in full-time equivalents (FTEs). One FTE is equal to one work year, or 2,080 hours.

^bInformation shown is on a calendar-year basis.

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